

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. 1

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By: [redacted] 25X1

Reports received from the Soviet-occupied European countries prior to the middle of July 1950 do not indicate any change in the disposition of the Soviet Ground Forces. There are no indications that any units were withdrawn from the Soviet-occupied countries or that any new units arrived from the U.S.S.R. The arrival in the Soviet Zone of Germany of large contingents of replacements, first observed in early June 1950, continued throughout that month but seemed to stop in early July 1950. The return to the U.S.S.R. of the older year classes due for discharge was still in progress during the first half of July 1950.

Germany.

1. Reports received from 5 July to 5 August 1950 confirmed the known dispositions of the Soviet Occupation Forces Germany prior to mid-July 1950.
2. Order of Battle Data .
The following units in the Soviet Zone of Germany were confirmed between 5 July and 5 August 1950: *

a. CHQ units of the Group of Occupation Forces Germany (COFG) .

25X1 30th Motor Trans Regt [redacted] in Granpitz up to 10 July 1950
A (66th ?) Sig Regt [redacted] in the Potsdam Area up to 10 July 1950
25X1 Hq 30th Cds Gun Arty Brig [redacted] in Potsdam-Nedlitz up to 13 July 1950

25X1 A Gun Arty Regt of the 30th Cds Gun Arty Brig, [redacted] in Potsdam-Medlitz up to 10 July 1950

25X1 36th Pon Bridge Regt [redacted] in Rosslau-Keinsdorf up to 4 June 1950
An Engr Regt [redacted] in Potsdam-Nedlitz up to early June 1950.

b. Eighth Gds Army.

25X1 578th AT Arty Regt [redacted] in Gera up to 11 June 1950
1173rd AT Arty Regt [redacted] in Weimar up to 29 January 1950
25X1 68th Gds Mecz Regt [redacted] in Halle up to 5 April 1950

c. Third Shock Army.

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25X1 Hq 207th Mtz Rifle Div [] in Stendal up to 10 June 1950.

25X1 A Tank Regt (former 16th Gds ?) of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div, [] in Stendal up to the end of December 1949.

25X1 132d Gds Arty Regt [] commanded by Colonel Franchenko (fnu), in Schwerin up to June 1950.

25X1 Hq 94th Gds Mtz Rifle Div [] in Schwerin up to 15 July 1950.

25X1 109th Gds Gun Arty Regt [] commanded by Gds Colonel Burdenko, (fnu), or Lieutenant Colonel Knida (fnu), in Wismar up to June 1950.

25X1 115th How Arty Regt [] commanded by Colonel Petrenko (fnu), in Schwerin up to June 1950.

25X1 74th (?) Tank SP Regt [] commanded by Colonel Prokhorov (fnu), in Schwerin up to June 1950.

25X1 Hq 18th Mecz Div [] commanded by Colonel Mamitov (?) (fnu), in Perleberg up to June 1950.

25X1 50th Mecz Regt [] commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Shichenko (fnu), in Perleberg up to 28 June 1950.

25X1 59th Mecz Regt [] commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Komashenko (fnu), in Ludwigslust-Techentin up to June 1950.

25X1 60th Mecz Regt [] commanded by Colonel Lobanov (fnu), in Parchim up to June 1950.

25X1 119th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt [] commanded by Colonel Sharokha (?) (fnu), in Ludwigslust up to 28 June 1950.

25X1 A Medium Tank Regt of the 18th Mecz Div [] in Parchim up to 8 July 1950.

25X1 d. Second Gds Mecz Army.

25X1 33rd Gds Mtz Rifle Regt [] in Kasewalk up to 3 May 1950.

25X1 34th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt [] in Neuruppin up to 6 June 1950.

25X1 48th Gds Tank Regt [] in Neuruppin up to 26 June 1950.

25X1 226th Mort Regt [] in Neuruppin up to 14 June 1950.

25X1 A Gds Sig Bn of the 12 Gds Tank Div [] in Neuruppin up to 21 April 1950.

25X1 Hq 1st Mecz Div [] in Doberitz-Kraampnitz up to 15 July 1950.

25X1 19th Mecz Regt [] in Doberitz up to 30 May 1950.

25X1 35th Mecz Regt [] in Doberitz up to 1 July 1950.

25X1 219th Tank Regt [] in Doberitz up to 24 June 1950.

25X1 49th Gds Tank Regt [] in Neuruppin up to 8 June 1950.

25X1 e. Third Gds Mecz Army.

25X1 Army Hq, CinC Lieutenant General F.A. Mitrofanov, in Luckenwalde up to 2 July 1950.

25X1 Hq 14th Gds Mecz Div [] in Jueterbog up to 17 June 1950.

25X1 49th Gds Mecz Regt [] in Jueterbog up to 17 June 1950.

25X1 2497th AAA Regt [] in Jueterbog up to 30 May 1950.

25X1 A RL Bn of the 14th Gds Mecz Div, AFN 70980 (?), in Jueterbog up to 17 June 1950.

25X1 Hq 6th Gds Tank Div [] in Bittenberg up to 12 July 1950.

25X1 Hq 7th Gds Tank Div [] in Nossau up to 12 July 1950.

25X1 Hq 9th Mecz Div [] in Cottbus up to 3 July 1950.

25X1 f. Fourth Gds Mecz Army.

25X1 312th Gds RL Regt [] in Eberswalde up to 11 June 1950.

25X1 117th Sig Regt [] in Eberswalde up to 31 March 1950.

25X1 Hq 6th Gds Mecz Div [] in Bernau up to 17 June 1950.

25X1 Hq 7th Gds Mecz Div [] in Fuerstenwalde up to 11 July 1950.

25X1 208th Gds AAA Regt [] in Frankfurt/Oder up to 9 April 1950.

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5. Training at Military Posts.

Those units which remained at their posts after the transfer of their divisions to the maneuver areas continued their training in and near their posts in July 1950. This training primarily affected the replacements which had arrived in June. The training included driving of motor vehicles and tanks. In the meantime part of these replacements joined their respective units stationed in the maneuver areas, i.e. replacements arrived at the Templin maneuver area in mid-June 1950, in Letzling Heath in late June 1950, and in Altengrabow in June 1950. /9/, /10/, and /1/.

6. Status of Training.

The replacement of well trained personnel by young soldiers has certainly affected the training status of the units concerned. The status of training, and thus the combat value, of the units has been lowered since the beginning of June 1950. This deficiency will be eliminated only after the basic training of the replacements at the military posts has ended, and after a prolonged training period of recruits, within their new units, has been carried out at the maneuver areas. The Soviet units will therefore not regain their full combat readiness before the early fall of 1950.

7. Personnel.

a. According to numerous transportation reports, large shipments of replacements continued to arrive in the Soviet Zone of Germany in the second half of June and early July 1950. For example, 20 shipments of 60 railroad cars, each loaded with replacements, passed through Kuestrin-Kietz from 24 June to 3 July 1950.

Besides these trains individual shipments of soldiers arrived in Germany via Frankfurt/Oder during the same period. /1/ According to available information, a total of 52 shipments of replacements arrived in Germany from early June to 3 July 1950. These observations were confirmed by numerous other reports of individual shipments observed in the Soviet Zone of Germany, and on the arrival of replacements at various military posts such as Potsdam, Doeberitz, Satz Korn, Rathenow, Burg, Jueterbog, Rosselau, Stendal, Dresden, Weimar-Mohra and Frankfurt/Oder. Since no other reports on the arrival of replacements have been received since 3 July 1950 it is possible that the arrival of new recruits was, on the whole, completed in early July 1950.

b. The return to the U.S.S.R. of older age classes due for discharge continued in June 1950. According to available information, such shipments were observed in July 1950. For example, a shipment of about 5,000 men was reported from Weimar in late June and early July 1950, and another one of 400 men from Hillersleben. /12/-/11/. The following east-bound troop shipments were observed from early June to early July 1950: nine trains proceeding via Kuestrin; and 21 trains which were presumably directed to Frankfurt/Oder via Kuestrin. Some of these trains are possibly included in the number of nine trains reportedly passing through Kuestrin. /13/

c. A comparison of the incoming and outgoing shipments shows that the number of replacements arriving in the zone far exceeds that of soldiers returned. /14/

8. Return of Soviet Dependents.

In early June 1950 it was reported from Rosselau that, according to a new order, all the Soviet dependents still in Germany are scheduled to be returned to the U.S.S.R./15/ In early July 1950 similar reports were received from Potsdam, Bornburg and Cottbus.

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- 25X1 9. Motor Vehicle [redacted]
Most divisions and independent OHQ units in the Soviet Zone of Germany and Austria were confirmed up to mid-July 1950 [redacted]
25X1 [redacted] reported up to 5 August 1950. /16/
- 25X1 10. Supply Situation.
During the period, two reports on the supply dumps in the Soviet Zone of Germany were transmitted. /17//18/. Two more reports will be submitted. /19//20/
11. Transportation Situation.
- a. The transportation situation during the period may be considered satisfactory. Operational difficulties resulted only from the 13 control points established around Berlin for a control of freight traffic to and from Berlin. /21//14/. The number of trains passing through the border stations along the Oder-Neisse line continued at the normal rate.
 - b. Reports on the coal situation have been received only from individual railroad stations, so that over-all figures on the railroad coal reserves available in July 1950 cannot be given. These individual reports, however, showed that coal reserves, especially hard coal reserves, were increasing. It may be assumed that the 200,000 ton mark, ten days supply, of the previous month has been surpassed.
 - c. Construction projects.
 - (1) The conversion of the Loewenberg-Neustadt-Rathenow branch line to a main line is progressing. The installation of five sidings and a connecting curve south of Neustadt was reported. /22/ and /23/
 - (2) The construction of a direct connection from Rostock-Port to Bramow, and the expansion of this railroad station into a receiving station improved the railroad facilities of the Rostock-Warnemuende Port. /24/
 - (3) By an agreement with Poland, the Goerlitz-Zittau railroad line, which follows the Lausitzer Neisse River, was reopened. This line is chiefly for workers going to or from their place of work. /25/
 - (4) The 8-km stretch remaining between Weitwein and Kuestrin-Kietz on the Frankfurt/Oder line is being reconstructed as a single track. This will establish a direct link between these two important border crossing stations. /26/
 - (5) The reconstruction of the dismantled single-track railroad line from Barth to Frerow via Zingst is scheduled for the near future. It would again link the health resorts on the Baltic Sea with the railroad net of the zone. This gives the project both economic and military importance. /27/
 - (6) The construction of a connection between Pankow and Schoenhauser Allee, stations of the Berlin elevated railroad system, in the Soviet Sector of the city, will make the elimination of the Gesundbrunnen railroad station in the French Sector of Berlin possible. /28/
 - (7) The construction of two new roads and two bridges across

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the Havel River, in addition to the reconstruction of the Elbe highway bridge near Tangermünde, create new east-west road connections, predominantly of military importance in the area between the Havel and Elbe rivers. /29/ /30/ /31/.

d. Miscellaneous

- (1) Trial runs made on the Halle-Berlin line with locomotives burning coal dust show that the Soviet Zone railroad administration is trying to eliminate brown coal firing, which is unprofitable, as much as possible. Brown coal firing also subjects locomotives to an excessive wear and tear. /32/
- (2) The transfer of railroad personnel from the Cottbus railroad district to the uranium mining district shows that these steps, which were reported in the previous month, seem to constitute a planned operation rather than isolated measures.
- (3) The following transportation measures, of possible future significance, may have been caused by the present political situation:

Assembly of locomotives in Cottbus by the Soviets. /33/ The placing of locomotive columns stationed in Frankfurt/Oder on a stand-by basis. /34/ This measure, which was first reported in late June 1950, is now confirmed. /14/ Registration of mobile loading ramps, suitable for the loading and unloading troops, in the Erfurt railroad district. /35/ On 17 July 1950, Lt Col Pavlov (fnm) of the SCC Transportation Division requested a report on the status of the bridges across the Oder and Neisse Rivers.

12. MGB/MVD Units.

- a. The occupation by an MGB/MVD unit of a barracks south of the Aue-Schneeberg road was again confirmed in late April 1950. About the same time it was reported for the first time that the former district court and the Alcepschule (lace maker school) in Schneeberg are occupied by MGB/MVD guard details. Two four-story buildings about 150 meters south of the Schwarzenberg railroad station were also reportedly occupied by MGB/MVD units.
- b. Military goods [redacted] were loaded in Wildpark in early May 1950. [redacted] last observed in December 1949 in connection with an MGB/MVD office. [redacted] it was inferred that elements of the MGB/MVD unit Guestrów were transferred into the Falkensee area in early April 1950. The observation [redacted] in the area of Granienburg - Wildpark may therefore be considered as a confirmation of this transfer.
- c. An MVD camp was again confirmed in the area of the Biesdorf hospital in late June 1950.
- d. The motor vehicles of the command echelon of the MGB/MVD headquarters [redacted] These vehicles were observed chiefly in the area of Berlin-Crucenau. [redacted] it can be concluded that the MGB/MVD units in the areas of Berlin, Schwerin-Guestrów, Dresden, Chemnitz, Halle and the Harz Mts are assigned to this headquarters. The MGB/MVD unit of the First Gos Wozn Army in the uranium mining district is an exception.

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- 25X1 a. [] of all the major MGB/MVD units in the Soviet Zone of Germany were continuously observed until mid-July 1950.

Austria-Western Hungary.

- 25X1 The general disposition of the Soviet occupation troops of the Central Group of Forces in Austria and Western Hungary was unchanged up to mid-July 1950.

13. The Hq 13th Gds Mecz Div [] was confirmed in Vienna up to 23 June 1950 by the evaluation of documents.

14. Training Areas.

- 25X1 a. The occupation of the Doellersheim training area by units of the 13th Gds Mecz Div and the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div was confirmed up to mid-July 1950 []

/37/ Entire units, particularly of the 13th Gds Mecz Div, were still at their posts at the beginning of July 1950, i.e. the 44th Gds Mecz Regt in Vienna, probably for guard duties, and the training of recruits, and the 106th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt in Kagran. /38/ Contrary to a previous assumption, the units of the 106th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt were not transferred to the Doellersheim maneuver area, but elements of the regiment, after the end of April 1950, stayed at the artillery range near Bruck on the Leitha River for short periods of training. /38/

- b. The elements of the GHQ AAA unit (23rd(?) AAA Div (Regt?)) which were transferred from their posts in Stockerau and Korneuburg to the Apetlon training area in mid-May 1950 returned to their garrisons about mid-June 1950. These military posts, after that date, were reportedly fully occupied, whereas Apetlon was reported to be unoccupied. /39/

- c. The occupation of the Haymasker training area by units of the 17th Gds Mecz Div was confirmed up to 30 June 1950. /40/

Rumania- Eastern Hungary.

- 25X1 15. Information furnished [] led to a further clarification of the situation in Eastern Rumania, principally in the Dobruja.

- a. Soviet troop trains were unloaded at the Canara railroad station (R 53/54/E 61) between 10 and 12 May 1950. These shipments included about 300 tanks. Ten other trains arrived on 19 May 1950. A total of about one division was detrained. /41/ /42/ In connection with a report on the arrival in Harsova (R 53/54/E 16) of Soviet march columns which had come from the direction of Braila, it is possible that about one division was transferred from the Braila area to the Constanta area. This division is possibly the 25th Gds Mecz Div which, on the basis of previous reports, was believed to be located in the Braila-Galati area. /42/ The units of this division held training exercises in the area north of Constanta during the first half of June 1950. /41/

- 25X1 b. [] in the area of Craiova-Tiliasi, observed five military shipments some of which had allegedly come from the U.S.S.R. and which proceeded in a west-northwest direction. /41/ /42/ These shipments probably brought replacements, personnel and materiel, for the Soviet units stationed in the area of Timisoara and eastern Hungary.

- c. The units located in the area of Timisoara-Arad, about one division with its division headquarters in Timisoara, were confirmed there

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up to late June 1950. They held combined exercises in this area during June 1950. /43/

- d. Soviet troops, including about 40 tanks, were observed in Szeged in late April 1950. Soviet troops, including about 50 tanks, were unloaded from two trains in Szeged in mid-April 1950. The units then left towards the north. /44/ These troops are possibly those which left the Timisoara-Arad area in a northwesterly direction in early April 1950, and were observed passing west through the Alba Julia (R 26/Q 83) railroad station on 19 and 20 April 1950. /45/ and /46/ Whether these forces belong to the unit believed to be located in the area of Kecskemet cannot be determined. Elements of this unit were observed in camps northwest of Kecskemet in April 1950. /44/

16. The general disposition of the Soviet occupation troops in Rumania and Eastern Hungary, as stated in the last monthly report, is supplemented as follows: /44/

- a. One unit, probably the 25th Gds Mecz Div, previously located in the Braila-Galati area, now located in the Constanta area.
- b. One unit, a tank or mechanized division, located in the area of Timisoara-Arad. There are also weak forces (rear details or guard detachments ?) in the Craiova-Bucharest area.
- c. One unit, a tank or mechanized division, located in Eastern Hungary in the Kecskemet area, possibly the 2nd Gds Mecz Div previously stationed in the Craiova area.

The presence of three Soviet units in Rumania and Eastern Hungary each of about division strength, is possible. In addition, the 17th Gds Mecz Div, assigned to the Central Group of Forces, is stationed in Western Hungary, at present in the Haynasker maneuver area.

U.S.S.R.

17. Through press-exploitation were confirmed prior to May 1950: Gds Colonel General E.M. Galitski was confirmed as CG of the Carpathian MD, and Gds Colonel General A.A. Grechko as CG of the Kiev MD, both prior to May 1950. [REDACTED]

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- 25X1 * [REDACTED] Comment. See Annex for detailed Soviet Order of Battle in Germany as of mid-July 1950.

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1 Annex: Soviet Order of Battle Germany.

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